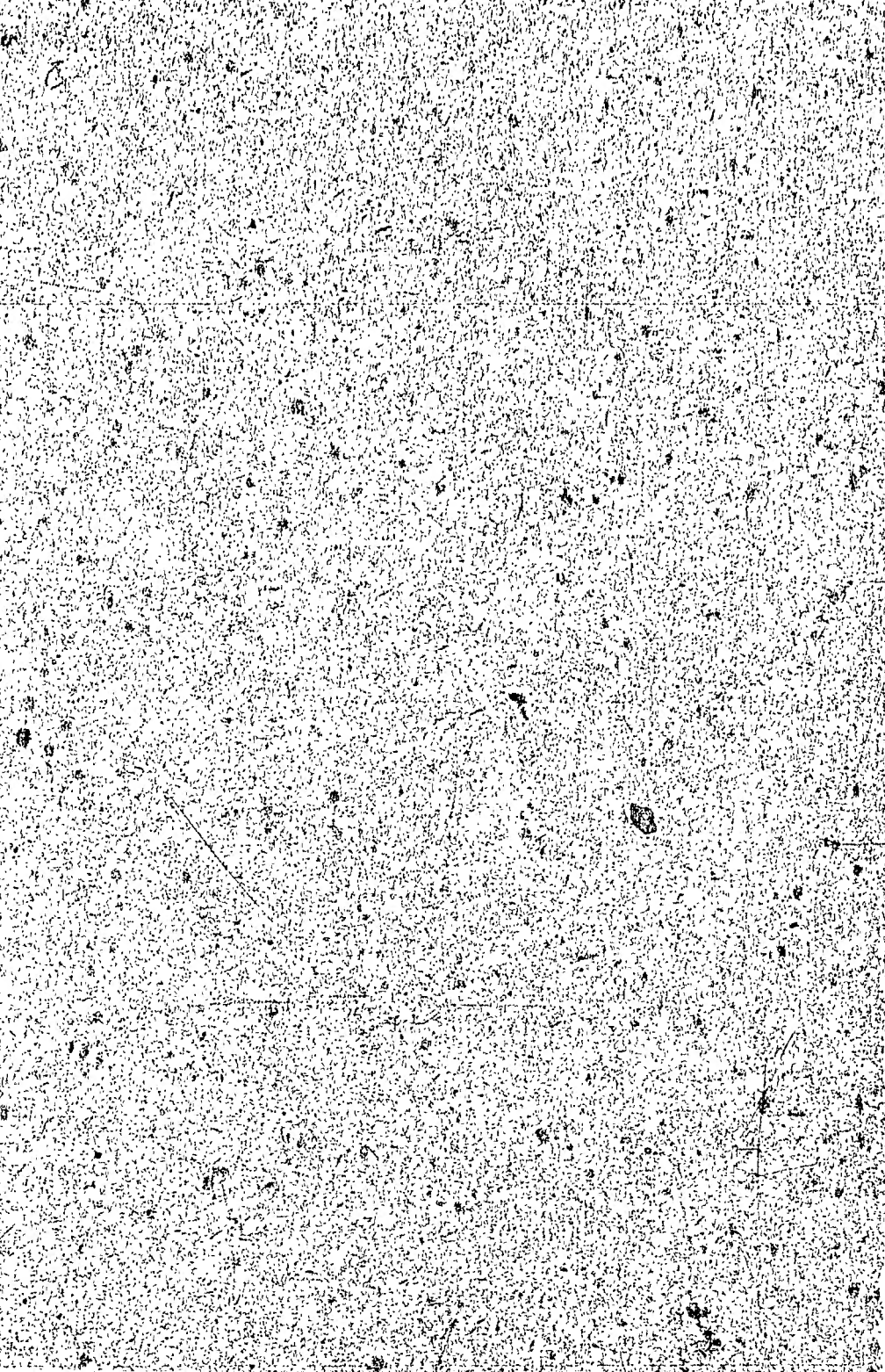
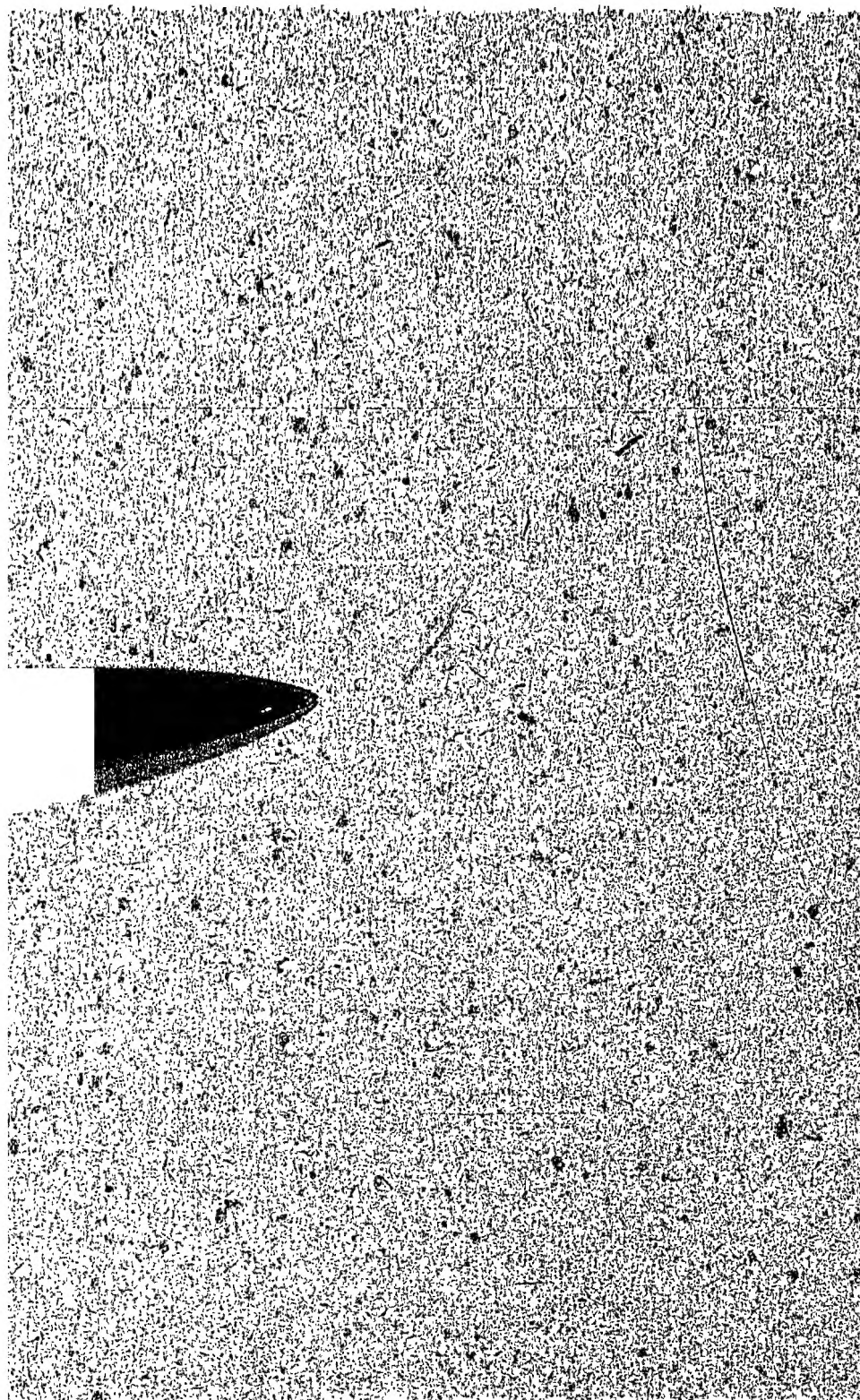


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THE QUESTION OF THE HOUR!

+ 1883 +

WHERE TO EMIGRATE!!

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ADVICE

TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN,  
WITH IMPORTANT

FACTS

FOR THEIR INFORMATION, ILLUSTRATING THE SUPERIORITY  
IN SOIL AND CLIMATE, AND THE ADVANTAGES

OF THE

GREAT CANADIAN NORTH-WEST

AS A FUTURE HOME,

IN COMPARISON WITH THE

WESTERN STATES OF AMERICA.

TOGETHER WITH

OTHER VALUABLE INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE  
CAPITALIST AND SETTLER.]

BY

THOMAS SPENCE,

*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.*

AUTHOR OF "MANITOBA AND ITS RESOURCES," &c., "THE PRAIRIE LANDS OF CANADA," &c., &c.

"Every one who has anything of a National spirit should read it."—*Montreal Gazette.*

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## CHAPTER I.

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### INTRODUCTORY.

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#### EMIGRATION FROM EUROPE.

The subject of colonization in other countries, has become a foremost social question amongst the farming classes of Great Britain. A succession of bad harvests, combined with high rents, and diminished prices for every kind of farm including live stock, has at last rendered it impossible for the majority of farmers any longer to hope against hope. Under these circumstances but one course remains open for the occupiers of such lands—to emigrate—whilst they yet retain a remnant of means wherewith to do so. It therefore becomes an important question for those who purpose following this course, to consider well what country they shall adopt as their future home; and as a guide to them, in arriving at this serious decision, this pamphlet is offered, that they may pause and consider well, that momentous question: to where shall they emigrate for their own and family's best future interest and happiness. Our duty is therefore to point out in comparison, from facts and testimony of the most unquestionable order, which must carry conviction to the mind of the most ordinarily intelligent person, the superior advantages to be enjoyed by the British emigrant selecting as his future home, the GREAT CANADIAN NORTH-WEST in preference to the Western States of America, the glowing and attractive pictures and representations of which have been held out throughout Europe, by railroad and other landed corporations; and in drawing the comparison, we do so, not with any prejudice, but solely in the interest of the intending emigrant, who seeking a home in a new country, among his prominent considerations are, the climate, its temperature, adaption to the culture of the grand staples of food, its healthfulness, and general prosperity.

The American Press is just now exercised over the question of the desirability of wholesale immigration, and ex-Commissioner Le Duc, formerly Chief of the Agricultural Bureau at Washington, comes out in a letter strongly denouncing it as likely to end in disaster to the country. The very fact that the question is discussed, however, is significant. It is the first symptoms of plethora; the United States have now begun to think that they have absorbed enough of the foreign element that has made them a great nation. The demand for people is now felt by some at least to be satisfied, and soon we will have the cry "America for the Americans" as the new phrase of know-nothingism.

A recent number of the St. Paul (Minnesota) *Pioneer Press* contained an article on the rapid exhaustion of the public domain of the United States, which showed conclusively that, within a very short space of time, the great Republic will no longer be able to invite immigration from other lands, with the promise of a quarter-section for every man who will till it. The last report of the Public Land Commission stated that the United States did not own in the West more than 25,276,960 acres of arable agricultural land which could be cultivated without artificial appliances. Since then, in 1880, the amount taken up was nearly 7,000,000 acres. This was surpassed in 1881, while during the present year (1882), the rush of settlers has been still greater, principally German, Swedish and Norwegian.

It would seem, therefore, that all the arable lands of the West will be taken up by the spring immigration of 1883. It remarks: "It is almost startling to contemplate the speedy termination of the Homestead and Pre-emption Acts by the exhaustion of the public lands. As it has been said, it will scarcely seem like the United States when we cannot boast of our readiness to give a farm to every comer."

These facts clearly show what a brilliant future is in store for the Canadian North-West. When Uncle Sam's domain is used up, there will be room enough and to spare in that of John Bull. In the fertile belt of the great Canadian North-West there are 200,000,000 of acres of land inviting settlement—an area capable of making four States as large as Minnesota.

This country will soon have a monopoly of free lands, and be the *only realm in the world* where a settler can get a farm for nothing. The cessation of American rivalry will do much to turn the full tide of emigration hitherward. So far we have had to cope with a most unscrupulous and unremitting competition.

There are no data by which to compute the multitudes who will very shortly be turning their steps to the great Canadian North-West, establish-



ing Anglo-Saxon civilization and British institutions throughout a vast area, unsurpassed by any other in the world, as the home of a free, contented and mighty people.—In the words of the poet—

“I hear the tread of pioneers  
Of nations yet to be;  
The first low wash of waves, where soon  
Shall roll a human sea.

The rudiments of empire here  
Are plastic yet and warm;  
The chaos of a mighty world  
Is rounding into form.

Each rude and jostling fragment soon  
Its fitting place shall find;  
The raw material of State,  
Its muscle and its mind.”

## CHAPTER II.

SLANDERS UPON THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST REFUTED. THE CONDITION OF DAKOTA, U.S., KANSAS, &c., AS COMPARED WITH THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

When American Railway Companies endeavour to secure settlers upon their lands, by circulating broad cast over Europe, pamphlets containing gross and unscrupulous slanders upon a better country, it is only proper that the emigrant should be supplied with truthful information, which should prevent him from being misled, or prejudiced by such reckless and untruthful statements, as the following extract from a pamphlet recently issued as a "Settler's Guide to the American North-West" by the Northern Pacific Railway Company, and thus we select as a sample of the indiscriminate falsehoods published in other American pamphlets, to prejudice emigration to Canada. It reads as follows

"The width of country in which the winter climate maintains is limited. Up in Manitoba, in the Canadian Dominion, is a wholly different condition. The excellent line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as projected, was changed for the worse to the south, in the vain hope to get away from frosts in July and August. The climate of Manitoba consists of seven months of Arctic winter and five months of cold weather. And Manitoba is a country of spring floods which drowns out all the farms in all the valleys. Her principal river has the peculiarity of running from the south in the United States straight north. The mouth of the Red River is frozen solid when the head and middle of the stream are broken up and running swiftly under the southern spring warmth. The ice dams at and around Winnipeg in a vast obstruction like a mountain barrier. The water sets back and covers all the surrounding country, drowning stock, floating away dwellings, buildings and fences, and driving the farmers off to the tops of hills to save their lives. So it is with Canada's rivers which flow from the west eastward, tributaries to this Red River. They all rise in the Rocky Mountains. The temperature of the foot-hills of this range being warmer than the open plains of water-soaked Manitoba all these streams in spring commence running ice at the head before they open at the mouth. The consequence is floods, which annually desolate Manitoba and keep the people who have been coaxed into it anxious, poor, and sick. 'Tis a pity that Canada is so cold and so subject to be annually drowned out; for it has a belt of wheat land extending to the Rocky Mountains as rich as any land south of the international boundary line."

The falsehoods in the above extract are too numerous to contradict in detail, and too ridiculous to deal with seriously; but that the Emigrant may be well advised, and judge for himself, we offer in this chapter, from undeniable official American sources, the actual condition of the greater portion of the American North-West through which the Northern Pacific Railway runs, and its lands are situated; the same American authority speaks honestly and truly of our North-West.

If there is one thing on which the Canadian North-West can justly pride itself, it is its magnificent climate. The winters are long, it is true, but so bright, dry and fine, as to be marvelously healthy and invigorating. Englishmen who have spent a winter in the country, greatly prefer it to an English-winter. The other seasons are equally fine. The summer days are warm, but the nights are moderately and delightfully cool, and as for the Autumn weather, which commonly extends into the middle of November, it would be difficult anywhere to find anything more enjoyable.

The Canadian North-West has never been known to suffer generally from floods. The only floods known throughout the North-West (and what country escapes them, even England!) have occurred along a portion of the Red River in Manitoba, and their visitations have not been more frequent on the average than *once in twenty-six years*, and the danger of them in future is always diminishing. At the worst, no serious inconvenience or loss has been sustained.

On the subject of floods, the Northern Pacific Railway, in its endeavours to secure settlers upon its lands, ought to be silent. An American press despatch from Yankton, Dakota, dated April 7th, 1881, stated:

"The ice gorge here broke last night. Two hundred buildings had been partially submerged, and much damage was done. A steamer was carried away with the gorge for a mile, and stranded on the railway track. Two hundred persons here were rescued from the submerged farming districts. The fuel supply has been reduced to a minimum. Many kinds of provisions are running short. The freshet swept away thousands of cords of wood."

Another graphic description of the condition of Dakota, traversed chiefly by the Northern Pacific Railway, on April 13, 1881, says that "ice is piled to a height of ten to thirty feet" along the banks of the Missouri, that "thousands of people are homeless, all they possessed having been swept away," that "hundreds of thousands of head" of cattle were drowned: that "farm-houses are submerged, or floating about in the water," and that "the entire Missouri slope is buried in snow." With this we dismiss that subject, and proceed to the condition, climate, and agricultural capacity of Dakota and Kansas, &c. &c., in contrast to that of the Canadian North-West.

General W. B. Hazen, of the United States Army, a gentleman who could not be expected to have any natural predilections in favor of Canada, yet he has condemned the falsity of the statements made by the Northern Pacific Railway Company, in regard to their lands, and has spoken of the excellent wheat growing valley of the Red River of the North. The following extracts, from an *official report* by that officer, who was entrusted with the duty of enquiring into the character of the North-Western portion of the United States, were published in the *New-York Tribune*, dated from Fort Buford, Dakota Territory, referring to lands of the Northern Pacific Railway and their agricultural capacity, climate, &c.; he says:

"For two years I have been an observer of the efforts upon the part of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to make the world believe this section to be a valuable agricultural one, and with many others I have kept silent, although knowing the falsity of their representations, while they have pretty fully carried their point in establishing a popular belief favorable to their wishes."

"When reading such statements of its fertility as appear in the article entitled 'Poetry and Philosophy of Indian Summer,' in that most estimable periodical, *Harper's Monthly* of December, 1873—in which are repeated most of the shameless falsehoods so lavishly published in the last two years, as advertisements in the interests of that company, and perhaps written by the same pen—a feeling of shame and indignation arises that any of our countrymen, especially when so highly favored with the popular good-will and benefits, should deliberately indulge in such wicked deception. The theoretical isothermals of Captains Maury and Blodgett, which have given rise to so much speculation, and are used so extravagantly by those who have a use for them, although true along the Pacific coast, are not found to have been true by actual experience and observations, in this middle region.

"The past season, as seen by the meteorological report, has been exceptionally rainy and favorable for agriculture here, and the post has, with great care, and by utilizing all the available season, made an extensive garden with the following results: The garden is situated immediately on the river bank, about two feet above high water. Potatoes, native corn, cabbage, early-brown turnips, early peas, early beans, beets, carrots, parsnips, salsify, cucumbers, lettuce, radishes and asparagus have grown abundantly, and have matured; melons, pumpkins and squashes have not matured; tomatoes did not turn red; American corn (early) reached roasting ears; onions with wheat and oats, matured at Fort Bethold, D. T., one hundred and fifty miles below, in the Missouri River. I am told by those who have been here a long time, that this may be taken as a standard for what may be expected the most favorable seasons in the immediate bottoms of the streams. The native corn matures in about ten weeks from planting. It puts out its ears from six to eight inches from the ground, and has a soft white grain without any flinty portion, and weighs about two-thirds as much as other corn.

"My own quarters are situated on the second bench of the banks of the Missouri, at about fifty feet above that stream, and six hundred yards away from it. And to raise a flower-garden ten feet by forty, the past two years, has required a daily sprinkling of three barrels of water, for which we were repaid by about three weeks of flowers.

"The site of this garden is supposed to be exceptionally fruitful, but I have before me a letter from Mr. Joseph Anderson, of St. Paul, Minn., who was hay contractor at this post in 1872. His letter states that in order to find places to cut the hay required by his contract that season, some nine hundred tons, he was compelled to search over a space of country on the North side of the river, twenty-five miles in extent in each direction from the post, or some four hundred square miles, and that there was none thick enough to be cut for as great a distance beyond. Respecting the agricultural value of this country, after leaving the excellent wheat-growing valley of the Red River of the North, following Westward one thousand miles to the Sierras, excepting the very limited bottoms of the small streams, as well as those of the Missouri and Yellowstone, from a few yards in breadth to an occasional water-washed valley of one or two miles; and the narrow valleys of the streams of Montana, already settled, and a small area of timbered country in North-West Idaho (probably one-fifteenth of the whole), this country will not produce the fruits and cereals of the last, for want of moisture, and can in no way be artificially irrigated, and will not, in our day and generation, sell for one penny an acre, except through fraud and ignorance; and most of the here excepted will have to be irrigated artificially. I write this, knowing full well it will meet with contradiction, but the contradiction will be a falsehood. The country between the one hundredth meridian and the Sierras—the Rio Grande to the British possessions—will never develop into populous States because of its want of moisture. Its counterpart is found in the plains of Northern Asia and in Western Europe. We look in vain for those expected agricultural settlements along the Kansas and Union Pacific Railroads, between these two lines, and 20 years hence the search will be quite as fruitless. We have in Nevada and New Mexico fair samples of what these populations will be. My statement is made from the practical experience and observation of eighteen years of military service as an officer of the army, much of which has been upon the frontier, and having passed the remainder of my life a farmer. For confirmation for what I have here said, I respectfully refer the reader to General G. K. Warren, of the Engineer Corps of the Army, who made a

scientific exploration of this country, extending through several years, and has given us our only accurate map of it; or to Prof. Hayden, for the past several years, engaged upon a similar work. The testimony of Governor Stephens, General Fremont, and Lieut. Mullans, is that of enthusiastic travelers and discoverers, whose descriptions are not fully borne out by more prolonged and intimate knowledge of the country.

"Herr Hass, the agent of the Berlin and Vienna banks, sent out to examine the country, could easily say the country is good so long as he advised his people to invest no money in it; and it is doubtful if that remark was based upon a sufficiently authoritative investigation of the country to merit the credence given it. Certainly it is incorrect; and especially valueless is the testimony of men of distinction of our own country who are not practical agriculturists, but have taken journeys in the fruitful months of the year to the Red River of the North to the rich valleys of Montana, or to the enchanting scenery of Puget Sound, except upon those particular points.

"I am prepared to substantiate all I have here said, so far as such matters are susceptible of proof, but, from their nature, many things herein referred to must, to many people, wait the action of the great solvent—Time"

In a later report, covering a greater extent of country, he quotes the testimony of persons who have examined the country as "Confirming my repeated statement that the country lying between 100 West longitude and the Sierra Nevada Mountains; all the way from Mexico to the British possessions in the North, is, in an agricultural sense, practically valueless, except in a few exceptional cases, where water can be used for irrigation, and that, even with this process, not much more than one acre in many thousands upon the average, can be made available on account of the scarcity of water."

General Hazen proceeds:—

"The past season has been one of unusual and somewhat remarkable rains in Dakota, as well as in many other parts of the world. This has given fair crops of roots, vegetables and other grains, without irrigation, and has given the far struggling farmers about Bismarck great hopes for the future; but the officers of the land office told me in November that they are selling very little land, and that, even if the crops of the last very exceptionally favorable year could be taken as a criterion, general agriculture could not be made profitable in that region, remembering the suffering of those who have sought homes to the Westward of the limit of sufficient rainfalls. The great need of correct information upon the subject to enable Congress to dispose intelligently of questions involving the capabilities of this country, the building up of new and populous States, such as Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, will no longer be seen on our present domain, and all calculations based upon such a thing are false, while all extraneous influences brought to bear upon emigration, to carry it West of the one hundredth meridian, excepting in a very few restricted localities, are wicked beyond expression and fraught with misery and failure."

Prof. HENRY, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, speaking of the explorations, under the auspices of the U. S. Government, of the region between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, reveals to us the startling facts:—

"That the *western progress* of its population, has nearly *reached the extreme western limit* of the areas available for settlement; and that the *whole space west of the ninety-eighth parallel*, embracing one-half of the entire surface of the United States, is an *arid and desolate waste*, with the exception of a narrow belt of rich land along the Pacific coast."

Now, in strong contrast to the foregoing, we select an instance of the fertility of the soil in the Canadian North-West—250 miles north of the

International boundary line, or North-West from Fort Buford in Dakota about 400 miles, at Battleford, on the great Saskatchewan river, and within 300 miles of the Rocky Mountains—and this is only one of thousands of similar instances among pioneer settlers of our North-West. The facts are related to the correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* at Battleford, under date of August 5th. 1882, as follows, and are corroborated by the writer's own knowledge and experience of that section of the country :—

"Yesterday afternoon a friend and myself drove out into the country to visit Mr. Adam Boyle, a gentleman engaged in farming and stock-raising at the foot of the Eagle Hills, five miles south from here. We travelled over a rolling country, in some places light and sandy, and in others of good dark loam, covered with long, rich, green grass, and dotted with clear blue lakes and bluffs of poplar. The prairie fowl started up in flocks as we passed, sometimes almost over them, and the wild ducks flew in hundreds over our heads. We arrived at Mr. Boyle's late in the evening. This morning he kindly accompanied us over his farm, and at our request gave the following account of his experiences in this country for the past two years. "Arriving here in the early part of October two years ago, with 26 head of cattle, calculating to sell them, I found people just digging their potatoes, and the crops all harvested without injury from frost; nor had there been any snow as yet, so, as there was no ready sale for stock at that time, I decided to winter my cattle here, and took up this place, built a house and "corral," and brought them out in good shape in the spring on fifteen tons of hay, which was all I could buy, and it was too late to cut any. They grazed out the greater part of the winter, there being very little snow in the hills. I have sold \$600 worth of butter and \$650 worth of beef, besides what I have used myself, and have 34 head of cattle, for which I could take \$1,200 to-day, but would not sell. A small stock-raiser has a far better chance here than in Bow River, it being hard to compete with the large ranch companies there, while here he gets ready sale for beef and butter at good prices, and this is the healthiest country I ever saw for stock. Last spring I broke nine acres of land, from five of which I harvested 220 bushels of grain, one acre of wheat producing 46 bushels. The balance was in potatoes and roots, and turned out well. This year I have 30 acres in crop, and expect to have 900 or 1,000 bushels of oats off 24 acres, and some of my grain will be ready to cut in two or three days. Those oats are already sold to the Government at \$1.25 per bushel. Take all the crop on the 30 acres, potatoes, oats and wheat, and I think I would not be over-estimating it at \$1,600. There is only about ten acres of this old land, the rest being on first breaking, and with the exception of about \$100 paid for labor, myself and a boy 14 years of age have done the work, besides fencing about 45 acres. The oats on the old land average about 4½ feet in height. I have had green peas since the 1st and new potatoes since the 10th of July. My peas are ready to pull now. I have beans, turnips, onions, carrots and cabbage all doing well. This is the experience of a man who was not brought up to farming. My crops here are as good or better than anything I ever saw in my life, and I have travelled and resided in nearly all the Western States and territories. I have lived in the famous Walla-Walla district of Oregon, and consider this just as good a place for farming."

The correspondent remarks :—

"The land on which Mr. Boyle's crop is, and which is the same as that generally found throughout the North-West, is a rich black loam with a clay subsoil. He has a spring creek of good water running past his house, and plenty of timber (birch and poplar) for building, wood and fencing, in the ravines running into the hills behind him, while a large swamp, in which he has cut 150 tons of hay this summer, stretches for a mile along the foot of his claim. There are hundreds of places with more or less equal advantages in the neighbourhood, though with the number of settlers coming in at present, the choice locations near town will soon be taken up, and new arrivals will have to go further back. Prices for all kinds of produce are good, and average about as follows :—Wheat, \$1.50; oats, \$1.40; barley, \$1.40; and potatoes, \$1.25 per bushel; hay, \$10.50 per ton; beef, 12½c and butter 50c. per pound."

Returning to the American North-West, Professor Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, speaking of the territory in the United States bordering on the International boundary line, says that :—

“The whole space to the West between the 98th meridian and the Rocky Mountains, is a barren waste, over which the eye may roam to the extent of the visible horizon, with scarcely an object to break the monotony. The country may also be considered, in comparison with other portions of the United States, a wilderness, unfitted for the use of the husbandman, although in some of the mountain valleys, as at Salt Lake, by means of irrigation, a precarious supply of food may be obtained.”

It is not necessary to quote the detailed description of this American Sahara, the concluding words of Professor Henry are more to our purpose.

He says :—

“We have stated that the entire region West of the 98th degree of West longitude, with the exception of a small portion of Western Texas and the main border along the Pacific, is a country of comparatively little value to the agriculturist, and perhaps it will astonish the reader if we draw his attention to the fact, that this line, which passes southward from Lake Winnipeg to the Gulf of Mexico, will divide the whole surface of the United States into two nearly equal parts. This statement, when fully appreciated, will serve to dissipate some of the dreams which have been considered realities as to the destiny of the Western part of the North American continent. Truth, however, transcends even the laudable feelings of pride and country, and in order properly to direct the policy of this great Confederacy (the United States), it is necessary to be well acquainted with the theatre in which its future history is to re-enacted.”

For the information of the Emigrant who may have a longing desire to realize the romance and happiness of a life in the Western States of America, as drawn by the glowing and attractive pictures and representations which have been so liberally scattered throughout Europe, we clip the following from a Kansas newspaper, which, however terrible the description, bears upon its face the honest truth, and many Canadians who originally emigrated from the older Provinces to Kansas, and glad to get away, are now comfortably settled in the Canadian North-West, tell similar tales of their experience and suffering. It reads as follows :—

WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS,  
April 27, 1876. }

Editors Planters :

DEAR SIRS.—A few facts from actual experience of farming in Kansas—the other side, and the truth. We have been much amused by the gushing letters of some contributors to your valuable paper, about this State, and think the actual experience of farmers like ourselves might be as valuable as the moonshine idea of men who never put a plough in the ground, or raised a calf, or wintered a Texas steer, or tried to watch a corn-field, or sell corn at 10 cents per bushel. We came here four years ago, determined to like the country. Now, we believe it to be a delusion and a snare. We wanted cheap lands; we paid \$1.25 per acre, but it has cost us in dead outlay, in money and in time, \$5 to \$20 per acre, and is all for sale less than cost.

We came to find a great stock country, where the me of feeding might be short, and cattle might live on the range all winter; we find it the worst hampered stock country we ever saw, and the grass nutritious and flesh-producing only three or four months of the year. We came to find a great wheat and corn country; we find that wheat raisers have not averaged their seed. Corn ranges all the way from nothing to fifty bushels per acre. We expected to find a tame grass country, but, so



far, timothy, clover and blue grass failed, and the climate that kills wheat will kill them. We came here to find a salubrious and healthy climate; we find it sickly, and the rates of mortality last winter along the streams terrible, so much so that we came to believe what an old doctor told us: "*That the most hardy could not expect to survive this climate fifteen years.*"

We came to the "Sunny South," where the warm zephyrs ever blow; we find cattle freeze to death in every locality. We came to find a great fruit country; we find our peach trees dead to the ground. We came to find a bracing air; we have found it so that we have to brace ourselves at an angle of forty-five degrees to make headway against the wind. We came here to escape the oppression of the rich, and the high taxes; our taxes range from 2.05 to 10 per cent on real estate, and does not pay anything. We came to find homes for the homeless, and land for the landless; we have got homes, very poor ones, and the land we would be glad to get sent of at half price. In short, we have got the land, and it has got us in the very worst way, and everyone is dissatisfied, unhappy, discouraged, and wants to get out of the country. We came to the country that was said to flow with milk and honey; we find it flowing with poverty and complaint. We find we must go where money is plenty, where labour is needed, and a market for our produce.

We live where every quarter section of land has been settled by good, energetic people, who have made every effort and universally failed; those who have done the most, and spent the most, are the most completely floored.

Such is our experience, after a fair, faithful trial of Southern Kansas. If you, Mr. Editor, can help us out in any way by advice or otherwise, you will oblige three farmers.

We have many friends East, and there are many coming West, we earnestly hope will see these few lines.

We do not wish to see our friends made paupers by doing as we have done, neither ought any more capital to be wasted in this desert of a country. We can substantiate all we have subscribed our names to by more positive proof if needed, and ask that this whole article may be published for the sake of truth.

Address,—

J. S. CALMER,  
M. G. AVERILL,  
J. T. DOUGLASS.

We now come to a general description of the condition of the vast country known as the Canadian North-West, attracting the attention of the civilized world, and in proof of our assertion that it offers the finest and most inviting field for emigration, the following testimony from the most reliable authorities, speaking from their individual practical experience, is submitted.

In 1858 Captain Palliser was requested by the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to state his opinion on the country he was engaged in exploring, and he describes the region drained by the Saskatchewan in the following words:—

"The extent of surface drained by the Saskatchewan and other tributaries to Lake Winnipeg, which we had an opportunity of examining, amounts in round numbers to one hundred and fifty thousand square miles. This region is bounded to the North by what is known as the strong woods, or the Southern limit of the great circum-arctic zone of forest which occupies these latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere. This line, which is indicated on the map, sweeps to the North-West from the shore of Lake Winnipeg and reaches its most Northerly limit about  $54^{\circ} 30.1' N.$  and longitude  $119^{\circ} W.$  from where it again passes to the South-West, meeting the Rocky Mountains in latitude  $51^{\circ} N.$  and  $115^{\circ} W.$  Between this line of the strong woods and the Northern limit of the true prairie country there is a belt of land varying in width, which at one period must have been covered by an extension of the Northern forests, but which has been gradually cleared by successive fires.

"It is now a partially wooded country, abounding in lakes and rich natural pasturage, in some parts rivalling the finest park scenery of our own country. Throughout this region of country the climate seems to possess the same character, although it passes through very different latitudes, its form being doubtless determined by the curves of the isothermal line. Its superficial extent embraces about sixty-five thousand square miles (whether geographical or statute he does not state; if the former, it would be about eighty-five thousand statute), of which *more than one-third* may be considered at once available for the purposes of the agriculturist. Its elevation increases from seven hundred to four thousand feet as we approach the Rocky Mountains at Edmonton, which has an altitude of 3,000 feet. Wheat is cultivated with success. The least valuable portion of the Prairie Country has an extent of about eighty thousand square miles, and is that lying along the Southern branch of the Saskatchewan, southward from thence to the boundary line, while its Northern limit is known in the Indian languages as the 'edge of the woods,' the original line of the woods being invaded by fire.

*"It is a physical reality of the highest importance to the interests of British North America that this continuous belt can be settled and cultivated from a few miles West of Lake of the Woods to the passes of the Rocky Mountains, and any line of communication, whether by waggon or railroad, passing through it, will eventually enjoy the great advantage of being fed by an agricultural population from one extremity to the other. No other part of the American Continent possesses an approach even to this singularly favorable disposition of soil and climate."*

"The natural resources lying within the limits of the Fertile Belt, or on its Eastern borders, are themselves of great value as local elements of future wealth and prosperity; but, in view of a communication across the continent, they acquire paramount importance. Timber, available for fuel and building purposes, coal, iron ore are widely distributed, of great purity and in considerable abundance; salt, in quantity sufficient for a dense population. All these crude elements of wealth lie within the limits or on the borders of a region of great fertility."

His Grace Archbishop Taché, of St. Boniface, whose duties as a Missionary of the North-West, gave him extensive opportunities of observation, in his work on the North-West, says:—

"The coal fields which cross the different branches of the Saskatchewan are a great source of wealth, and favor the settlement of the valley in which nature has multiplied picturesque scenery that challenges comparison with the most remarkable of its kind in the world. I can understand the exclusive attachment of the children of the Saskatchewan for their native place. Having crossed the desert, and having come to so great a distance from civilized countries, which are occasionally supposed to have a monopoly of good things, one is surprised to find in the extreme West so extensive and so beautiful a region. The Author of the universe has been pleased to spread out, by the side of the grand and wild beauties of the Rocky Mountains, the captivating pleasure grounds of the plains of the Saskatchewan."

Confining his remarks to the capabilities for stock raising, His Grace further adds, referring to the great extent of pasturage:

"The character and richness of its growth equalling the finest clover. It is known that in cold countries grass acquires a nutritive power which its juices have not time to develop in warmer climates."

Captain W. J. S. Pullen, R. N., comparing with other countries:

"I have been in, viz.: Australia, America, North and South India, &c., that I have no hesitation in agreeing with Father de Smet, Mons. Borgeau, Blakiston and many others, that there is a most extensive portion of the country so long governed by the Hudson's Bay Company ready and offering a good field for colonization."

Lord Milton, who spent some time in the country, says :

"As an agricultural country its advantages can hardly be overrated. The climate is milder than that of the same portion of Canada which lie, within the same latitudes, while the soil is at least equal, if not of greater fertility. Coal of good sound quality is abundant in the Saskatchewan, Battle, Pembina and other Rivers. In some places the beds are of enormous thickness, and may be worked without sinking, as it often crops out along the river banks. Cereals of almost every description flourish even under the rude cultivation of the Half-breeds. The same may be said of all the root crops which are ordinarily grown in England, Canada or the Northern States of America."

Mr. W. B. Cheadle, an English gentleman who accompanied Lord Milton, also says :

"At Edmonton, eight hundred miles distant from Fort Garry, near the Western extremity, wheat grows with equal luxuriance, and yields thirty to fifty bushels to the acre, in some instances even more. The root crops I have never seen equalled in England; potatoes get to an immense size, and yield enormously. Flax, hemp, tobacco, all grow well; all the cereals appear to flourish equally well; plums, strawberries, raspberries and gooseberries grow wild. The herbage of the prairie is so feeding that corn is rarely given to horses or cattle. They do their hard work, subsist entirely on grass, are most astonishingly fat; the draught oxen resemble prize animals at a cattle show. The horses we took with us were turned adrift at the beginning of winter, when snow had already fallen; they had been over-worked and were jaded and thin. In the spring we hunted them up, and found them in the finest condition, or rather too fat. The soil in La Belle Prairie, where we built our hut for the winter, was *four feet deep*, and free from rocks or gravel—the finest loam. The climate is that of Upper Canada, or perhaps rather milder. The summer is long and warm, the weather uniformly bright and fine; with the exception of occasional showers, a wet day is almost unknown. The winter is severe and unbroken by thaw, but pleasant enough to those able to house and clothe themselves warmly."

Prof. John Macoun, M.A., Botanist, who thoroughly explored the country, says :

"In Croft's Trans-Continental Tourists' Guide occurs the passage, speaking of the Prairie west of Antelope, on the line of the Union Pacific Railway : 'We now enter on the best grass country in the world, and further on he says : 'The country is destined at no distant day to become the great pasture land of the continent.' 'Now,' says Prof. Macoun, 'I have passed over these plains from Laramie to Antelope, which are represented as being the best grazing lands in the world, and which are now supporting thousands of cattle, and they bear no more comparison to our plains (the Saskatchewan) than a stubble field does to a meadow. While they have 1,000 miles of sage plains (valueless), for bunch grass soon dies out when pastured, and sage brush takes its place, we have over 1,000 miles, from East to West, of land covered at all times of the year with a thick sward of the richest grass, and which is so nutritious as to keep horses in good condition, though travelling, as ours did, at the rate of forty miles per day.'"

Further on he says :

"That there is a great uniformity respecting soil, humidity and temperature throughout the whole region, is apparent from the unvarying character of its natural productions. Spring flowers were found on the plains April 11th, and the frogs croaking the same evening. During 20 years in Ontario, he never observed our first spring flower (*Hepatica triloba*) as early as that except twice."

Again he says :

"It requires very little prophetic skill to enable any one to foretell, that very few years will elapse before this region will be teeming with flocks and herds."

The Rev. George M. Grant, in "Ocean to Ocean," says, from his own experience crossing the continent as Secretary to the Engineer-in-Chief of the Canadian Pacific Railway :

"The climatological conditions are favorable for both stock raising and grain producing. The spring is as early as in Ontario, the summer is more humid, and, therefore, the grains, grasses and root crops grow better; the autumn is bright and cloudless; the very weather for harvesting; and the winter has less snow and fewer snow-storms, and, though in many parts colder, it is healthy and pleasant, because of the still, dry air, the cloudless sky and bright sun. The soil is almost everywhere a peaty or sandy loam resting in clay. Its only fault is that it is too rich. Crop after crop is raised without fallow or manure."

The following extract from the Speech from the Throne of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, at the opening of Parliament, speaking of the prosperity of the Province of Manitoba :

"A harvest was reaped of such an abundant character as to prove beyond all question that Manitoba is entitled to take the highest rank as an agricultural country."

Lord Dufferin, the late Governor-General of Canada, has already given in many of his able and eloquent public speeches, his opinion, as the result of his visit to the country in the summer of 1877, pronouncing it to be one of the finest in the world.

The Marquis of Lorne, the present Governor-General of Canada, who travelled over 2,000 miles throughout the North-West during the summer of 1881, has already given, in the most eloquent language, his experience and description of the country as one of the richest in the world for agriculture, and, as regards climate, one of the healthiest—the result being the commencement of an immense flow of immigration from Great Britain.

The eminent American statesman, the late Hon. William Seward, thus wrote his impressions sixteen years ago : "I see in British North America, stretching as it does across the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and occupying a belt of the temperate zone, a region grand enough for the seat of a great empire, in its wheat fields in the West. I find its inhabitants vigorous, hardy, energetic, and perfected by British constitutional liberty."

In conclusion, here is what our American cousins honestly think of this country. The *Philadelphia Press* lately says :—

"The greatest wheat-growing region in the world is now being opened to settlement. The largest and most productive portion lies within the British province of Manitoba in North America. It is sufficiently prolific when fairly cultivated to make England independent of the United States for breadstuffs, and to create a powerful rivalry elsewhere. The extent of this enormous and rich British territory is comparatively unknown to the United States. It is estimated at 2,984 000 square miles, whilst the whole of the United States south of the international boundary contains 2,933,000. In the north-western prairies of Canada, wheat often produces 40 to 50 bushels an acre, while in South Minnesota 20 bushels is the average crop; in Wisconsin only 14; in Pennsylvania and Ohio, 15. Within five years it is calculated that 4,000,000 acres of this fertile prairie land will be under wheat cultivation. This means an addition to the wheat products of the world of 100,000,000 bushels, being the amount exported last year from America. It is evident that our superiority as a grain-growing country is likely to be seriously threatened by the rich prairie lands of this north-western British America, as it will make the mother country entirely independent of foreign supply."

The importance of these statements cannot be over-estimated in drawing the comparison, and should not fail to carry conviction to the most obtuse intellect, that the entire expansive movement of emigration will be concentrated in the direction of our vast fertile valleys, possessing all the true elements of future greatness and prosperity. The great system of railways under construction, and now within a short distance of the Rocky Mountains, will, when completed, open the markets of the world to the Canadian North-West. The result of all this will be the existence in this country of a race of agriculturists perhaps altogether different from the farmers of other lands—the fertility of the soil will make them wealthy almost without an effort. The possession of abundance should make them generous by removing all necessity for being penurious; their rural occupations and the opportunity of contemplating nature in her grandest efforts should make them virtuous; the constant use of machinery on their extensive farms, and the exercise of mind required to comprehend the complicated works, will make them intelligent and skilful; the leisure of the winter months will give opportunity for improvement by reading and study. No doubt the time will come when the farmers of the North-West will form a peculiar class which never before had an existence. They will possess a national character decidedly their own—an agricultural aristocracy—strong in body, clear in understanding, honorable in business, moral in their lives, and determined in their conduct. The natural advantages offered by the Canadian North-West are supplemented by other blessings which we may surely speak of as such even to those who leave their native soil to find a new home elsewhere. The settler in Canada does not forfeit his nationality by changing his residence. He is an Englishman; still, under English laws and English institutions.

The following extract from an original poem, written nearly thirty years ago, when little or nothing was known of the country, we insert as deeply interesting, not only as a poetic description of this vast region, but as highly prophetic of the great future which is now being developed:—

“ Where thy far-rolling waters run,  
 Assiniboine—Sas-kau ja wun—  
 Extends a kingdom thrice as great  
 As kingly Pharoah’s proud estate;  
 Fertile as Egypt *was* and fair,  
 Reclining by the waters there,  
 The verdant, blooming landscape smiles  
 Like Eden for a thousand miles;  
 An Eden, that was never sown—  
 That ne’er the husbandman has known—  
 Which never left the toiler’s breast  
 With bounteous sheaves of harvest blest—  
 Whose bosom, for the years unborn,  
 Hoards up her affluent stores of corn,  
 Awaiting, till the coming time,  
 Here shall collect from every clime,  
 The race ordained to reap her spoil,  
 Minds to conceive and hands to toil,  
 And commerce with her wings unfurled,  
 Shall bear her wealth to feed a world.”

### CHAPTER III.

FACTS AND REASONS—WHY THE BRITISH EMIGRANT SHOULD SELECT THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST AS HIS FUTURE HOME, IN PREFERENCE TO THE AMERICAN NORTH-WEST.

The rapid growth of population and development of wealth and industry, as exhibited by the *Canadian North-West* (including the Province of *Manitoba*), may be said to be unparalleled in history, and is one of the most remarkable events which men in our day have the opportunity of seeing pass before them. From a large tract of country destitute of dwelling houses, of cultivated fields, of fixed inhabitants; where Indians wandered over it, but did not leave a single trace of having made a home, or subdued the soil, of having changed the face of nature; in the short space of ten years, a large area of this desolate waste has become the home of thousands of people, coming from each Canadian Province, the United States, Great Britain, Russia, Iceland, &c. Schools, churches, mills and stores are met with almost everywhere in settlements of little over a year's growth, and opportunities for social intercourse are at the command of even those in the most sparsely settled neighbourhoods. The hunting ground of the savage has been transformed into the home of the civilized and contented European; and this growth of the past will be far transcended by the growth of the future as the home of millions and the granary of the world.

After a residence of sixteen years in the country, we can say without fear of contradiction that the inducements to-day offered by the Canadian North-West to immigrants and capitalists cannot be surpassed, and are rarely equalled by any other country on the globe, and, as we have proved, are greatly superior, in comparison, with those offered by the American North-West.

These comprise excellence of soil and water, agricultural and commercial advantages, and educational facilities; and in addition to all these, cheap lands, and free homesteads of 160 acres, equally good, of which thousands of enterprising people are every year taking advantage, and the tenant farmer and man of small means daily attracted to the splendid opportunity here presented to acquire homes in such a productive country; not a lease for any term of years, but a perpetual ownership, to transmit to his heirs, or he may sell it; no landlord, no yearly rent to pay, nor are any church rates or tithings exacted. The settler's farm is his private domain, and his house is really his castle; he becomes his own master for life, and leaves this precious legacy to his children.

It may be affirmed that whatever our North-West is to-day, she owes solely to the inherent merits that God has given her, of soil, climate and pro-

duction, developed by the energy, industry, and perseverance of her people; our success has been achieved without the phantom lures of gold or silver to blazon forth to the world, as was the case with California and Australia. An English writer has said: "Formerly the richest countries were those in which the products of nature were most abundant, but now the richest countries are those in which man is most active." We may justly claim to have both essentials in full measure. Our bountiful soil ensures the first, and our bracing atmosphere the second.

Of paramount importance to the emigrant is the healthfulness of the locality which is to be the scene of his future labours, and the home for himself and family. What to him are fair fields, flowering meadows, buried in the luxuriant growth of fertile soils and tropical suns, if they generate fever producing miasma and vapour?—what are soft and perfumed breezes, if they waft the seeds of pestilence and death? What are bountiful harvests of golden grain, rich and mellow fruits, and all the wealth the earth can yield, if disease must annually visit his dwelling, and death take away, one by one, the loved and the young? It is well known that some of the fairest portions of the Western States are so fruitful of the causes of disease as almost to preclude settlement. And thousands have left their comparatively healthy European homes to find untimely graves in the prairie soil of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri.

The Canadian Land Regulations having been very generally represented to be more onerous and less liberal than those of the United States, it is proper to point out to intending settlers that ten dollars (\$10) covers the whole of the office fees in Canada, either for a homestead; while in the Western States there are three fees, one of eight dollars, payable on entry, another of eight dollars for a commission, and another of ten dollars when the patent is issued, making twenty-six dollars (\$26). In some of the States the fees are thirty-four dollars (\$34). In fact, there is comparatively very little Government land left, worth taking as homesteads at any price. The United States lands are sold at \$2.50, and upwards, per acre. A British subject, before he can receive his patent for United States Government land, is required to take the following oath, which must necessarily be somewhat repugnant to his feelings:—

DISTRICT COURT,  
 ..... Judicial District, } State of .....  
 County of ..... }

I.....do swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States of America, and that I do absolutely and entirely Renounce and Abjure forever all Allegiance and Fidelity to every Foreign Power, Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to *Queen Victoria, of Great Britain and Ireland*, whose subject I was. And further, that I never have borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the degrees of Nobility of the country whereof I have been a subject, and that I have resided within the United States for five years last past, and in this State for one year last past.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court }  
 this.....day of.....18.. }

.....Clerk



Another important consideration. The Law of Canada and the Statutes of Manitoba, provide ample protection for the settler and his family, against their new home in the North-West being seized for debt at the instance of a vindictive creditor; that is, if the head of the family takes the precaution of securing it, by effecting the necessary special registration.

#### IN THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES.

Any man who is the owner of real estate in fee simple or for life, with a house thereon actually occupied by him, may register as a "homestead" in the ordinary Registry office for the district, an extent of land not exceeding eighty acres (in a rural locality,) or the lot on which such dwelling house stands (if an incorporated city, town, or village.) A homestead thus registered is wholly exempt from seizure or sale under execution or under any act respecting insolvency, for any debt of the owner contracted after such registration, provided the value of the homestead does not exceed \$2,000. If its value exceeds that amount, then it stands so exempt to that amount, except:—(1). For the amount of any mortgage given to secure the purchase money of the property, and (2) for the amount of any taxes due thereon.

In case the proprietor of the homestead is married, he has the right, upon making the necessary affidavits, to have his wife's name entered by the Registrar upon the certificate to such homestead, whereupon she becomes the joint owner of a life interest therein. Should the wife at any time thereafter be unfaithful to her husband, no legal proof thereof being furnished to a court of competent jurisdiction, her name may be cancelled, when her life interest absolutely ceases. Except in a case of that kind, the wife's name having once been registered, the property can only be disposed of by her joining with her husband in any deed. If she should die previous to her husband and there are any minor children living, the homestead cannot be alienated without the sanction in writing of a stipendiary magistrate or the judge of a local court of record.

In the event of the owner of such a homestead dying, the property goes to the widow for life, or, if he leaves no widow, to any minor child or children, to use so long as such minority continues. [For further particulars, see the Homestead Exemption Act, 1878.]

In case of a property being the wife's, she may, as in the manner above stated, register the name of her husband as joint owner with her.

#### IN MANITOBA,

The law is still more liberal in protecting from seizure for debt the property of a settler. Thus, the following is a list of the real and personal estate declared to be absolutely free from seizure by virtue of all writs of execution issued by any of the courts of the Province, viz.: (1) The land cultivated by the debtor to the extent of 160 acres, any excess being liable to be sold (with privilege to first mortgagee); also the house, stables, barns, and fences on the farm, subject to the same condition, (2) the beds, bedding, and bedsteads in common use by the debtor and his family; (3) one stove and its piping, one table, necessary kitchen utensils and table crockery for the debtor and his family, one spinning wheel, one weaver's loom, the

books of a professional man, one axe, one saw, one gun, six traps, and the nets and seines used by the debtor; (4) necessary food for the family for thirty days; (5) one cow, two oxen, one horse, four sheep, two pigs, and food for the same for thirty days; (6) the tools and necessities used by the debtor in his trade or profession, to the value of \$100 (if he be a mechanic), and \$200 (if he be a farmer or professional man); (7) the articles and furniture necessary to the performance of religious services; (8) the necessary and ordinary clothing of the debtor and his family. The debtor is moreover entitled to choose which articles he will retain in the event of having more of a particular kind than is covered by the exemption.

The articles embraced within the exemptions numbered 3, 5, 6, and 7, are, however, liable to seizure, if their price should be sued for—that is, if they have not been paid for. School and municipal taxes are recoverable, and may be levied for upon any of the debtor's real or personal property, except such as is included in exemptions 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

There is no limitation as to the value of the farm or residence thus secured to the family; whatever its value *may become*, it remains the shelter, the castle, the home of the family, to cluster round its hearthstone in the hour of gloom and disaster, as securely as they were wont to do in the sunshine of prosperity. We must remember that no general law can be framed for the protection of the unfortunate, that will not sometimes be taken advantage of by others; but it may be safely asserted, that such an exemption law will be found a blessing to thousands of worthy men, women, and children, for everyone unworthily shielded by its provisions.

Few people are aware of the vast extent of the Dominion of Canada, or of the fact that it covers a larger extent of territory than the United States, the wheat area of our North-West being larger than all France and Germany or equal to about 380,090 square miles.

It would be absurd to expect any country of this vast extent to be all equally fit to receive the plough at once. If only one-third is here pointed out as awaiting the industrious hand of man to insure him independence the other two-thirds are parts requiring draining or partial clearing. It would also be absurd to suppose it all equally fertile, as there is a considerable difference between the deep beds of black vegetable mould which generally prevail, and of course there are occasional bad spots and poor sandy ground, which must be found in all countries; but prominent among the questions proposed by the emigrant or capitalist seeking a home in a new country are those concerning the climate, its temperature, adaptation to the culture of the grand staples of food, and its healthfulness.

The newspapers of Canada and Great Britain, and the reports of the delegates of tenant farmers, liberally invited by the Government of Canada to judge the merits of the country by personal visits, have contained glowing pictures of the wonderful fertility of our prairies.

Mr. Pope, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, did a good stroke of business in 1880 when he invited these delegates to visit the Northwest. Here is a sample of the advertisements now appearing from one of them:—  
“Farming in Canada.—I am one of the Tenant Farmers” delegates sent to Canada in the Autumn of 1880, and intend going out this Autumn to select a Farm for myself. I will also take charge of Gentlemen's Sons, who

wish to get them well placed with good practical farmers for a small premium.—For address, apply Box, "A. H." Office of the London Canadian, 62, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C." But we would suggest the best and cheapest way for a gentleman's son to learn farming, is not to pay a premium, but to hire out for a while.

Here as in no other portion of this continent are *openings* to-day that yield their wealth to brains, energy and pluck, and if a man wants to work honestly for what he has, he can do as well here as in any land beneath the sun. We would only add, that all intending emigrants should remember, that a new country like this, is not the idlers paradise, that all its mines of wealth are surrounded by bustling difficulties. It also has its drawbacks; no country in the world it should be remembered is perfect, or without them. Its great superiority is, that it is a land of opportunities.

Its rapid development and present prosperity may be attributed to four principal causes, viz.: First, its salubrity of climate; second, the extraordinary fertility and adaptability of its soil; third, to the liberal homestead law in force under the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act, and lastly to the great Railway system now under construction, affording a ready market to the settler.

In no other country, can the British born subject feel so much at home.—Within a short journey of his native soil—or be as free and independent, and attain, at least as much wealth as will suffice to make life comfortable, as in the Canadian North-West, protected by the British flag, and where English laws, are if anything, even more liberally administered than they are at home. Where education is free, and where the majority of the people are themselves, either settlers from Great Britain, or their immediate descendents from Eastern Provinces of the Dominion, and where all are prosperous, peaceable, contented, and happy.

The following instructive passage, which is here quoted from the letter of a leading American Statesman, the Hon. Horatio Seymour, late Governor of New York, should have great interest to the British agricultural emigrant in considering his future prospects.

"Should England, (says Mr. Seymour), decide upon a national system of trade, she will be able, by the imposition of ten or twenty cents a bushel upon American wheat, "to bankrupt the farmers of our North-West (*i.e.*, of the States). 'She can, by a like discrimination as to beef, pork, butter, cheese, and other farm products, cripple, if not ruin, our farmers all over the country, because it is too apparent to need argument that, with our vast railroad system and the agricultural lands developed by it, our own people cannot consume what our farmers produce.'" In short, says Mr. Seymour, "between our north-western line of 45 degrees and 54 degrees 40 minutes there is a country owned by England with greater grain and stock growing capacity than all the lands in the Baltic, the Black Sea, and the Mediterranean combined."

## CHAPTER IV.

### GENERAL DETAILED INFORMATION OF PRACTICAL VALUE TO THE SETTLER OR CAPITALIST.

Having in the previous chapters, we trust, amply satisfied the reader of the vastly superior inducements offered by the Canadian North-West, to the intending emigrant, the following information is given for his future guidance.

#### WHO SHOULD EMIGRATE.

"The tillers of the soil" are the class who are most needed here, and who are most certain in achieving success by steady industry; in fact, any man, whatever his station in life may be, who is able and willing to work, and has any adaptability for agricultural pursuits, can, in the course of a few years, build up for himself and family a prosperous future and independence. Professional men and clerks should not come unless with means to take up land and commence the life of a farmer. Carpenters, blacksmiths, etc., with a little capital to start with, can, when not working on their land, secure employment in the nearest settlements, and do well. There is also a constant demand for female servants at good wages (who are certain soon to become their own mistress). Laborers who can handle a pick and shovel will meet with ready employment for some years to come, in consequence of the construction of the Canadian Pacific and other Railways, the wages averaging \$2.00 and \$2.50 per day, equal to eight and ten shillings, stg. With prudence and economy he may soon save enough to start him on a free homestead of 160 acres, his own master.

The tenant farmer, with some capital, who seeks to improve his condition by his experience, and desires larger and quicker returns for labor bestowed and capital invested, has unequalled advantages offered to him, and the ordinary immigrant with even a couple of hundred pounds to begin with can start under very favorable circumstances on a free grant of land. Detailed particulars will be found under the appropriate headings.

The intending settler in Manitoba is advised not to encumber himself with very heavy luggage unless it is absolutely necessary. Cumbersome and heavy articles of furniture, such as chairs, stoves, tables, etc., would probably cost as much in transport as they would be worth, and things of this sort can be obtained reasonably in Manitoba. But beds [unfilled], bedding, and clothing of all sorts should be taken. Agricultural implements (which should be of the kind adapted to the country) would be better purchased after arrival; also tools, unless those belonging to special trades.

All intending settlers will obtain either from the Government Immigration Agents, or from the Land Officers, directions as to where to go and how to proceed to select land, if their point of destination is not previously determined. There are also Government Land Guides, who will direct parties of settlers to their particular localities.

All settlers are especially advised to look very closely after their luggage, and see that it is on the trains or steamboats with them, properly checked. Very great disappointment and loss have often occurred from neglect of this precaution. It is better for the immigrant not to proceed until he knows his luggage is on the train.

Settlers' effects, including their cattle in use, will be passed free through the Custom House, and any necessary bonding arrangements will be made, which will thus prevent any delay, inconvenience, or loss occurring. Each passenger, before his departure from the port in Great Britain, should be provided with address cards, and he should see that one is fastened to each of his pieces of luggage.

Immediately on the arrival of settlers in the Canadian North-West, the Dominion Government Agents will see them properly accommodated, and will give them every information to assist them in choosing a good locality to settle in.

For rates of passage, either ocean or inland, it is better to apply to the Agents of the steamships or the nearest Dominion Agent, who will give all information and directions.

The following are the officers of the Dominion of Canada in Great Britain :—

LONDON.....SIR ALEXANDER T. GALT, G.C.M.G., &c., High Commissioner for the Dominion, 10 Victoria Chambers, London, S.W.

MR. J. COLMER, Private Secretary, (Address as above).

LIVERPOOL. MR. JOHN DYKE, 15 Water Street.

GLASGOW....MR. THOMAS GRAHAME, 40 Enoch Square.

BELFAST.....MR. CHARLES FOY, 29 Victoria Place.

DUBLIN.....MR. THOMAS CONNOLLY, Northumberland House.

The cost of conveyance from any part of Canada to Manitoba is exceedingly moderate, and the steamers from Great Britain are now so numerous, that the transport of a family from any part of the United Kingdom or from Canada to the great wheat growing region and cattle raising districts in the North-West, cannot fairly be considered as a difficulty when the advantages offered are considered. A continuous line of railway now exists from Quebec and the different sea ports to Winnipeg, and about five hundred miles west, and daily extending under rapid construction.

The system of emigrating in small colonies will be found very advantageous to the pioneers, as well as economical; neighbours in the old land may be neighbours in the new; friends may settle near each other, form communities and the nucleus of new settlements and towns, establish schools and, in short, avoid many of the traditional hardships which have usually

attended pioneer life. The colony system is also calculated to supply the needs of all members of the community, and to furnish employment to every industry. Whenever a colony is established there will soon be near its centre the storekeeper, blacksmith, carpenter, etc., post office, school house and church, and, with the progress of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Steamboat navigation, a market. Until then an ample market, commanding high prices, is created in the interior by the influx of following settlers and the rapidly increasing trade.

The attention of the capitalist intending to emigrate is drawn to the importance and mutual advantage of this system, in which capital, directed by sagacity and enterprise, possesses such unquestionable advantages, united with industry and a plucky purpose, and in no place under the sun could it reap better rewards than under the bright skies and healthful atmosphere of this fair land.

Those with limited means should endeavour to arrive in the country as early in spring as possible, say during the month of April, or early in May, so as to have time to hunt up and locate their land. (Guides for this purpose are furnished by the Government to parties free of expense). By arriving at this time, they have a season of seven months before them, in which to get some of their land under cultivation, build a house, and gather a crop for the family use, before the winter comes on; to the poor man, who expects his support from the soil, the value of time is an important consideration; as a rule, the autumn is the worst time he could come.

If the immigrant reaches his land by the middle of May, he can at once break up a few acres, and sow wheat, oats, barley, &c., realizing a fair crop. If he does not commence until the middle of June, he is too late to produce most crops the same season, but he is yet in time for barley, potatoes and turnips. The best time for breaking the prairie sod is in June or July, when the grass roots being filled with juice, a thorough rotting of the turf is secured, and if turned early in June, potatoes may be dropped into the furrow, and covered by the plough with the tough sod, and will grow through it; the yield will be about half a crop. Indian corn may also be planted on the sod, while turnip seed may be sown, and very slightly covered; but the ground will be in better condition for the succeeding year where nothing is planted upon the turf. In the following spring the ground should be thoroughly harrowed, and the wheat drilled in or sown broadcast. If sown in May it will be ready for the reaper early in August, and as soon as it is taken off, ploughing may commence for the next year's crop. An early variety of Indian corn should be used. After the furrow is turned, it may be planted by chopping a place with a single stroke of the hatchet, dropping the corn in, and pressing it down with the foot. Squashes, pumpkins, and melons grow on the sod. Beans also may be grown on the turf, and by using early varieties of seed, an abundant supply of these articles of food may be raised for the use of the family. A great advantage to the new settler in having a good yoke of oxen is, that they will work better in the breaking plough, and grow fat on the green grass that they eat at night; whereas, the horses, accustomed to a liberal supply of oats, will not do so well at first on grass alone. A tent may be used to live in at first to gain time in putting in crop.

## WHAT IS REQUIRED TO START WITH AND THE COST OF A HOME.

The question is often asked, how much money is indispensably necessary for the settler to get a fair start with? The answer to this depends very much upon who the questioner is, what family he has, with how little they could be content, and many other circumstances which cannot be anticipated. It is therefore best to tell simply *what may be done*, under ordinary adventitious circumstances. In the case of a poor man going on Government land—1st. The entry fee for his homestead of 160 acres will be \$10; a tent, \$12; material for his house, if built of sawn lumber, size 16x18 feet, say \$125. The work he can do himself, and for winter this can be made warm enough by building a sod wall outside of the boards. Furniture, consisting of a cooking stove, crockeryware, half a dozen chairs, one table, and two bedsteads (bringing his own bedding), will require about \$40. To work his farm, a yoke of oxen, \$130; a breaking plough, \$20; waggon, \$75; total, \$392. If he begins in the spring, he can grow corn, potatoes, and garden vegetables, but will have to buy flour for a family of four persons, say \$40; groceries, \$20; a cow, \$40; total, \$85. Add for two or three hogs, hoes, shovel, rake, scythe, and other incidentals, say \$40, and we have the following:—

Entry Fee for homestead.....	\$ 10
Tent.....	12
Material for house.....	125
Furniture (exclusive of bedding).....	40
Farm implements and oxen.....	225
Living the first 16 months, if no wheat sown.....	100
Incidentals.....	40
	<hr/> \$552

equal to £110 8s. stg.

or, he may even manage to get along on a lesser sum, by doing with fewer implements at first; for instance, say:—

One Yoke of Oxen.....	\$120.00
One Waggon.....	80.00
Plough and Harrow.....	25.00
Chains, Axes, Shovels, &c.....	30.00
Stoves, Beds, &c.....	60.00
House and Stable, say.....	150.00

equal to £93 stg.

\$465.00

If all his time is not employed about his own claim, he may safely calculate upon having opportunity to work for his neighbours, and earn considerable, or the construction of the Canadian Pacific and other railways will afford him all the employment he desires. The above calculation is of course only intended for the guidance of the poor man.

## THE SECOND YEAR OF SETTLEMENT.

He will require cash for seed wheat, and a drag to harrow it in, say \$75; this year he may confidently expect from his 50 acres of wheat 1,000



bushels. Deducting 200 bushels for bread and seed, and selling the remainder at say 60 cents per bushel, will bring him \$480; his cash expenses may be limited to groceries, clothing, &c., say \$150, and he has \$330 to improve his house, and add to his stock and farm implements. If he breaks 50 acres again this year, and secures a crop of say 2,000 bushels (a low average) the third year, the accomplishment of which depends mainly upon his own industry, he will be able to make himself and family comfortable and have a good home. All such as have more money than the sum given above, will not be under the necessity of submitting to so many privations at first, but it may be added, three things are necessary for SUCCESS in any country. They are INDUSTRY, ECONOMY AND CAREFUL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT.

For the information of those with more ample means, and desiring to farm on a larger scale, the following is added as a detailed list of present prices at Winnipeg:—

Waggons complete.....	\$ 70 to \$ 90
Extra Prairie Breaking Plough .....	20 to 25
Cross Plough, 12 inches.....	17 to 20
Cultivators, 5 teeth .....	7 to 9
Harrows, iron with 60 teeth.....	15 to 20
Sulky Plough .....	60 to 65

(These Sulky Ploughs are much in use, saving the labour of walking, the horses being driven as in a waggon.)

Sulky Ploughs, 2 gangs.....	115
Seeders.....	75 to 95
Reaping Machine.....	120 to 140
Farming Mills.....	35 to 45
Self-Binding Harvester Combined Reaper.....	300 to 320

#### COST OF BREAKING AND WORKING LAND.

The following is as near correct an estimate of the cost of operating a prairie farm in Manitoba, or the North-West, and the methods of farming, as we can give:—

Breaking from June 1st to July 20th, cost per acre.....	\$2.50 to \$ 3.00
Backsetting, same breaking in August and September, per acre.....	2.00
Seeding (getting seed in the ground following spring) per acre.....	0.75
Cutting, Binding and Shocking at harvest, per acre.....	3.50
Cost of raising one acre of wheat, say.....	10.75
Twenty bushels (low estimate) wheat at 70 cents.....	14.00
Profit per acre on first crop, in round numbers.....	4.75

Hauling to market costs about half a cent. per bushel for every mile.

For subsequent years it will be the same as above, less the cost of breaking, \$3.00 per acre, and there will be an increase in yield of 10 per cent. a year for three years, where it remains for ten years following.

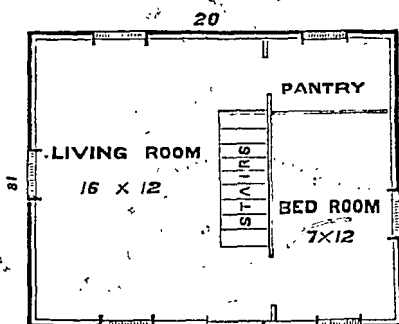
#### PLAN FOR A SETTLERS' HOUSE

A very comfortable house, large enough for a family of several persons, may be built at a cost of \$236, or about £47 4s. stg. It would be 16 ft. 20 inside, contain a living room 13 x 16, bedroom 7 x 12, pantry 4 x 7, on

the ground floor, with stairs leading to the attic. The studding would be twelve feet from the sills to the eaves, the lower storey eight feet, four feet above with a sloping roof will give an attic large enough for good sleeping accommodation. The house would need five windows, one outside and two inside doors. The items of expense would be approximately as follows, not including assistant labour that may be required.

4,000 feet common lumber, at \$30.....	\$120.00
4,000 shingles, at \$6.....	24.00
Nails, &c.....	20.00
Sherthing paper (to make air tight).....	20.00
Doors, windows; &c.....	24.00
For contingencies, say.....	28.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$236.00</b>

The following diagram shows the arrangement of the interior—ground floor.



PLAN.—Scale 3-16ths of an inch to the foot.

The eaves should project a foot or more, to carry the rain from the sides of the building,—until bricks can be obtained for the chimney, a joint of stove pipe will serve instead, only great care should be taken to protect the surrounding wood from taking fire. The plan is drawn on a scale of 3-16ths of an inch to the foot, so that a settler with the plan before him, may make his own calculations, and be his own joiner. The house should front towards the East or West. The winds prevailing in Manitoba are from the North and South-West. Easterly storms do not often occur. In building the house, oaken poasts at each corner, five to six feet in length, and eight or ten inches in diameter, should be sunk into the ground nearly their full length, and the sills spiked firmly to them. This, with proper bracing, will give sufficient firmness to the structure, against the strong winds which often prevail on the prairie. In the autumn, it should be well banked round with manure or earth, with battened walls (strips to cover the seams), and sheathing paper (a kind of thick pasteboard); such a house is very warm, and will give good accommodation, till the owner is in circumstances to replace it with one of more ample dimensions.

## THE CLIMATE.

The dryness of the air, the character of the soil, which retains no stagnant pools to send forth poisonous exhalations, and the almost total absence of a fog or mist, the brilliancy of its sunlight, the pleasing succession of its seasons, all conspire to make this a climate of unrivalled salubrity and the home of a joyous, healthy, prosperous people, strong in physical, intellectual and moral capabilities. Therefore, the assertion that the climate of our North-West is one of the healthiest in the world may be broadly and confidently made, sustained by the experience of its inhabitants. Some of the hardiest and strongest men the writer has ever seen are Europeans and Canadians, who came to this country at an early date, and finally became settlers. Agriculture, therefore, cannot suffer from unhealthiness of climate.

Its distinguishing features in relation to husbandry: The melon, growing in open air, and arriving at perfect maturity in August and September, may be briefly explained by reference to the amount of sunlight received during our growing seasons, viz: Whilst at New Orleans in July they have fourteen hours of sunlight, we have sixteen, with much longer twilight than they, consequently our vegetation grows more rapidly than theirs, and matures much sooner. This is a beautiful law in compensation, as what we lack in heat is made up in sunlight during our summers. Changes in our temperature, it must be admitted, are sometimes sudden and violent. We are about half way to the North Pole, and subject to either extremes. This, instead of being a disadvantage, is rather in our favour; it gives variety, a thing desirable at times. Then, again, these changes are, for the reasons already given, seldom pernicious. Plants and animals are armed with the proper implements for resistance. I would not infer that we are subject to hurricanes, or other violent commotions of the atmosphere, any more or as much as other places. But we have a touch at times of both extremes, a vibratory movement of the climates of the torrid and frigid zones.

The seasons follow each other in pleasing succession. As the sun approaches its northern altitude, winter relaxes its grasp, streams and lakes are unbound, prairie flowers spring up, as if by the touch of some magic wand, and gradually spring is merged into the bright, beautiful June, with its long warm days, and short, but cool and refreshing nights. The harvest months follow in rapid succession, till the golden Indian summer of early November foretells the approach of cold and snow; and again winter, with its short days of clear, bright sky and bracing air, and its long nights of cloudless beauty, complete the circle.

The average fall of snow is about six inches per month. The snow falls in small quantities, at different times, and is rarely blown into drifts so as to impede travelling. With the new year commences the extreme cold of our winter, when, for a few days, the mercury ranges from 15 to 35 degrees below zero, falling sometimes even below that. Yet the severity of these days is much softened by the brilliancy of the sun and the stillness of the air. Thus, while in lower latitudes they are being drenched by the cold rain storms, or buried beneath huge drifts of wintry snow, we enjoy a dry

atmosphere, with bright cloudless days and serene starlight nights; and when the moon turns her full orb'd face towards the earth, the night scene is one of peerless grandeur.

#### THE SOIL AND ITS AGRICULTURAL CAPACITY.

The soil is generally an alluvial black argillaceous mould, rich in organic deposit, and resting for a depth of eighteen inches to four feet, on a tenacious clay. Scientific analysis develops the presence in due proportion of elements of extraordinary fertility, comparing favorably with the most celebrated soils of the world. This theoretic excellence is amply confirmed by the practical results of agriculture.

An important feature in the soil of our prairies is, that its earthy materials are minutely pulverised, and is almost everywhere light, mellow, and spongy.

#### WHEAT GROWING.

The average yield of wheat in Manitoba, deduced from the aggregate of local estimates, is twenty-five bushels to the acre, the range of ordinary yields being from fifteen to thirty-five. Experience has taught us to allow largely for the disposition to base general inferences on the most striking and notorious instances, and for the general habit of confounding a usual result with an average one.

A comparison of the yield of wheat for past years in Manitoba with the best districts of the United States, will show its superiority over them, viz:—

Red River Spring Wheat, average production, 25 bushels per acre.					
Minnesota	do	do	20	do	do
Wisconsin	do	do	14	do	do
Pennsylvania	do	do	15	do	do
Massachusetts	do	do	16	do	do

The weight as compared with the following States, is:—

Manitoba Spring Wheat	63 to 66 lbs. to the bushel.
Minnesota do	60 to 65 lbs. do
Illinois do	52 to 58 lbs. do
Ohio do	57 to 60 lbs. do
Pennsylvania do	57 to 60 lbs. do

The soundness and fullness of the grain is unmistakeably indicated by the fact, that it *will command a higher price* than any Western State grain, when it goes to market unmixed and well cleaned.

The fact established by climatologists that "the cultivated plants yield the greatest products near the Northernmost limit at which they will grow" is fully illustrated in our productions.

An extensive miller in Minnesota was astonished on visiting Manitoba at the yield of wheat in his hand. "We have an excellent harvest in Minnesota, but I never saw more than two well formed grains in each group, or cluster, forming a row, *but here, the rate is three grains in each cluster. That's the difference between twenty and thirty bushels per acre.*"

## STOCK RAISING.

The experience of many years shows that no physical impediment arising from climate or soil, exists to prevent the prairies of our North-West becoming one of the best grazing countries in the world; and with the introduction of immigration, in a few years, the beautiful prairies of the North-West will be enlivened by numerous flocks and herds, and the cattle trade, already springing into importance, will rapidly increase. Near the foot of the Rocky Mountains there are now several extensive stock farms. For raising cattle and horses, this country is equal to the State of Illinois, and for sheep-raising it is far superior. The quality of the beef and mutton raised upon our northern grasses, has been pronounced of superior excellence. Among the peculiar advantages of Manitoba for stock-raising and wool-growing, the most prominent are—1st. The richness and luxuriance of the native grasses. The grass is mainly cut on the swamps and meadows, which chequer the prairies, or fringe the streams and lakes. 2nd. The great extent of unoccupied land, affording for many years to come, a wide range of free pasturage. 3rd. The remarkable dryness and healthfulness of the winter. The cold dry air sharpens the appetite, and promotes a rapid secretion of fat, and vigorous muscular development. All point to stock-raising as one of the most important and promising of the diversified channels into which the industry of the immigrant and capitalist is to be directed.

## SHEEP AND WOOL GROWING.

There is not room in this guide to give the subject of wool-growing the attention which its importance deserves. The experience of forty years, and of some who have been engaged in the business in Australia, establishes beyond a reasonable doubt the following conclusions:—

- 1.—That from the nature of our climate and the general undulating character of the prairies, the richness of the grasses, and the purity of the waters, this country is adapted in an eminent degree to be healthful and profitable breeding of sheep.
- 2.—That sheep are entirely free from the diseases which cut them off so largely in more southern climates.
- 3.—That the characteristic dryness of our winters not only protects them from the casualties to which they are exposed in moister winter climates, but stimulates them to a more healthy and vigorous growth.
- 4.—That the naturalization of sheep imported from Illinois, Ohio, and other middle States of America, *improves the quality of their wool.*
- 5.—That is by far the most profitable branch of industry in which the settler with capital can engage, especially in connection with stock-raising.

## GAME.

The prairies and forests abound in great variety of wild animals, among which are deer, bears, wolves, foxes, wild-cats, raccoons and rabbits, otter,

mink, beaver and muskrat are the principal aquatic animals that frequent the water courses. Buffalo in the Western prairies. Pigeons, grouse, partridges and prairie chickens are among the feathered game. In the fall and spring ducks and geese are found in immense numbers.

#### FISH.

The larger lakes abound in white fish, a delicious article of food, weighing from four to five pounds. The fisheries of the lakes, when properly developed, will form an important source of revenue. The rivers and streams abound in pickerel, pike, catfish, sturgeon, gold-eyes, &c., and trout in the mountain streams.

#### FRUITS.

The culture of fruit, especially the apple, has been almost entirely neglected heretofore in this region; probably on account of there generally being such an abundance of wild fruits, or the difficulty of procuring cuttings. For this and other reasons an erroneous impression has prevailed that we could not raise fruit or apple orchards—an extraordinary inference, when we consider that many forms of wild fruit are indigenous to the country, abounding in the woodlands, and unsurpassed in flavour, size and productiveness—the principal of which are strawberries, whortleberries, saskatoon, and marsh and high bush cranberries, therefore immigrants are not likely to suffer for want of fruit.

In Minnesota the wild plum improves so much by being transplanted and cultivated as to equal any of the garden varieties. The high-bush cranberry also improves by transplanting, and makes a beautiful ornament to the grounds about the prairie farmer's house.

#### OATS, BARLEY, RYE, POTATOES, ETC.

The whole group of subordinate cereals follow wheat, and are less restricted in their range, growing five degrees beyond wheat, in the Mackenzie River Valley to the Arctic Circle. Barley is a favorite alternative of wheat in Manitoba, and yields enormous returns, with a weight per bushel of from 50 to 55 pounds. Oats also thrive well. Potatoes—the best known principle established by climatologists, that “cultivated plants yield their greatest and best products near the northern-most limits of their growth,” applies with peculiar force to the production of potatoes with us. The mealy quality, the snowy whiteness, the farinaceous properties, and the exquisite flavor which distinguish the best article, reach perfection only in high latitudes.

The potatoes grown are well known to be unsurpassed in all the qualities named, while their prolific yield is not less remarkable. Turnips, parsnips, carrots, beets, and nearly all bulbous plants, do equally as well as potatoes.

In conclusion, we would again repeat the Great Canadian North-West invites the honest and industrious, however friendless, to make themselves free homes, in a country blessed with British constitutional laws, ample protection to life and property, a healthy climate, and a fertile soil.

Great as are the unquestionable advantages which a union of money and industry possess, there is no country under the sun where unaided muscle, with a plucky purpose, reaps greater rewards than under the bright skies, and helpful atmosphere of this fair land.

Feeling himself every inch a man, as he gazes upon the unclaimed acres which shall reward his toil, the settler breathes a freer air, his bosom swells with a prouder purpose, and his strong arms achieve unwonted results. Any man whose capital consists on his arrival of little but brawny arms and a brave heart, may do as others have done before him, select a homestead in some of the many beautiful and fertile regions westward, and into which railroads will rapidly penetrate; after which, being allowed six months before settling upon the land, he may work upon the railroad and earn enough of money to make a start in a small way; and by the time he produces a surplus, the railway will be within reasonable distance to take it to market; he finds himself the proud possessor of a valuable farm, which has cost him little but the sweat of his brow.

The object of this guide is to *present the facts to the world* as briefly as possible, relative to this portion of the Dominion of Canada, to those who desire to know them, in such a shape, as may be worthy of careful perusal, as we have conscientious care to willingly deceive no one. Cruel is the writer who draws immigrants to any country by gross misrepresentations. Changing one's home is to all a serious event. Shiftless discontent transforms many a man into a pioneer, who, finding a new country not a Paradise, send back evil reports, of the land. No matter how milk and honey may abound, no matter how large and luscious are the grapes of Eschol, they are nothing to some tall sons of Anak, who becoming, in the face of difficulties, as "grasshoppers in their own sight," soon desire to return into Egypt.

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